

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OECD P 28300 01 OF 02 302040Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

EA-09 FRB-01 INR-07 IO-10 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-06

SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 SS-15

NSC-05 AGR-10 NSF-02 OES-05 /116 W

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R 302028Z OCT 75

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC 9028

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 OECD PARIS 28300

PASS: USDA FOR EDMINSTER, ARS: FARRELL, ERS;WITCHER,
FAS. AID FOR PARKER, NSF FOR STEVER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR OECD

SUBJECT: AD HOC MEETING ON COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURAL
RESEARCH, OCTOBER 28-29, 1975

1. SUMMARY: BUILDING UPON RESULTS OF JUNE 11-12, 1975
MEETING, GROUP DISCUSSED US FOOD RESEARCH PROPOSAL AND
INTEGRATED THAT PROPOSAL INTO A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR
COOPERATIVE RESEARCH TO BE FURTHER DEVELOPED AT
DECEMBER CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS OF AGRICULTURAL
RESEARCH. PROPOSALS TO EMPHASIZE WORK ON PROBLEMS OF
LDC'S AND TO ENLIST THEIR PARTICIPATION WERE DISCUSSED.
THERE WAS CONSENSUS THAT CONTEMPLATED RESEARCH COOPERA-
TION HAS TO BE ACCOMPLISHED WITHOUT NEW BUDGETARY
COMMITMENTS. END OF SUMMARY.

2. MEETING ATTENDED BY 18 DELEGATIONS INCLUDING ALL
LARGE COUNTRIES EXCEPT ITALY. GROUP SHOWED KEEN AND
POSITIVE INTEREST IN US PROPOSAL AFTER US DEL
(EDMINSTER) EXPLAINED THAT US PROPOSAL CONTAINS
NO BUDGET INCREASES.

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PAGE 02 OECD P 28300 01 OF 02 302040Z

3. CONSENSUS WAS THAT RESEARCH PROJECTS ADDRESSING THEMSELVES TO THE FOLLOWING 4 QUESTIONS MIGHT BE DISCUSSED BY DIRECTORS OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH WITH VIEW TO COOPERATIVE UNDERTAKINGS: (1) HOW CAN AGRICULTURE USE ENERGY MORE EFFICIENTLY? (2) HOW CAN FOOD QUALITY, INCLUDING THE NUTRITIONAL VALUE OF FOOD, BE ASSURED? (3) HOW CAN OPTIMUM UTILIZATION OF AVAILABLE FOOD AND FEED RESOURCES BE ASSURED AND, WITHIN THIS FRAMEWORK, HOW CAN POST-HARVEST LOSSES BE PREVENTED? (4) HOW CAN VEGETABLE PROTEIN REQUIREMENTS FOR FOOD AND FEED RESOURCES BE COVERED? (CANADA SUGGESTED ADDING EDIBLE OIL REQUIREMENTS TO THAT.)

4. TO KEEP ALL REASONABLE AVENUES OPEN, THE CHAIR (SIMANTOV) STATED (I) THAT IT WAS LEFT TO DIRECTORS OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH TO CHOOSE ONE, SEVERAL OR ALL OF THE ABOVE 4 PROJECT AREAS AND (II) THAT THERE MIGHT STILL BE OTHER TOPICS. THE FOLLOWING GENERAL CRITERIA FOR PROJECT SELECTION WERE AGREED UPON: (1) RELEVANCE TO THE FOOD PROBLEM; (2) GLOBAL SCOPE WITH EMPHASIS ON INTEREST TO LDC'S BUT NO LIMITATION TO A SPECIFIC COUNTRY OR REGION SUCH AS OECD; (3) NO DUPLICATION OF PROJECTS RECEIVING ADEQUATE ATTENTION IN OTHER FORA; (4) LONGER-TERM VIEW IMPLYING BASIC RESEARCH ALTHOUGH WORK PROMISING EARLY RESULTS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED; (5) INITIAL COORDINATION MUST HAVE LIMITED TIME SCALE (NOT A 10 OR 15 YEAR PROJECT); (6) INTEGRATION OF MULTINATIONAL RESULTS SHOULD LEAD TO QUICKER RESULTS AND SHOULD ECONOMIZE RESOURCES; (7) IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO LIMIT PROJECTS TO AGRICULTURAL RESEARCHERS; (8) PROJECTS SHOULD HAVE SEVERAL APPROACHES SO THAT DIFFERENT ATTACKS CAN BE DIVIDED UP AMONG COOPERATING COUNTRIES.

5. IT WAS AGREED THAT HAVING SPECIFIC RESEARCH PROPOSALS UNDER THE 4 AREAS ENUMERATED IN PAR 3 WILL SUBMIT THEM PRIOR TO DECEMBER 1-5 MEETING SO THEY CAN BE TRANSLATED. IN THESE SUBMISSIONS PROPONENTS WILL EXPLAIN WHAT IS BEING DONE IN OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND WHAT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE METHOD OF HOW TO PROCEED. THE DISCUSSION UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 OECD P 28300 01 OF 02 302040Z

IN DECEMBER SHOULD THEN BRING FORWARD ENOUGH INTEREST TO ELABORATE THE PROPOSALS OPERATIONALLY INCLUDING THE SCIENTIFIC INPUT.

6. AS PLANNED IN JUNE AND RESTATED IN CURRENT MEETING, THE DECEMBER MEETING WILL ALSO DEAL WITH INFORMATION SYSTEMS. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE WILL BE INVITED TO THE DECEMBER

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PAGE 01 OECD P 28300 02 OF 02 302037Z

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R 302028Z OCT 75

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UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 OECD PARIS 28300

MEETING. THE PROPOSALS TO BE AGREED UPON IN THAT CONFERENCE WILL TAKE THE FORM OF PROPOSALS TO THE ORGANIZATION -- EITHER TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY IT OR UNDER ITS AUSPICES.

7. AFTER THE CHAIR'S SUMMARIZATION, CANADA, US AND FRANCE MENTIONED AGAIN THAT IT WAS EXPECTED THAT METHODS TO KEEP DOWN FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS WOULD BE APPLIED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL PROPOSALS.

8. US DEL PROPOSED AND GROUP IMPLICITLY AGREED (SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION AT DECEMBER CONFERENCE) THAT A TECHNICAL GUIDANCE COMMITTEE WOULD MEET AT A SUITABLE LABORATORY IN FEBRUARY TO DRAW UP SPECIFIC PROJECT OUTLINES, DESIGNATE PROJECTED TIME TABLES FOR TARGETED REVIEWS, CONSIDER EXCHANGES OF SCIENTISTS, ETC. LDC REPRESENTATIVE(S) -- DEPENDING ON THE AVAILABILITY OF SUITABLE PERSONNEL -- MIGHT BE INVITED.

9. ACTION REQUESTED: SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL(S) AS
STATED IN PAR 5.
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PAGE 02 OECD P 28300 02 OF 02 302037Z

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